

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present inventors have discovered that histidinol-phosphatase is essential for fungal pathogenicity. Specifically, the inhibition of histidinol-phosphatase gene  
5 expression in fungi results in small, non-sporulating lesions and reduced pathogenicity. Thus, histidinol-phosphatase can be used as a target for the identification of antibiotics, preferably antifungals. Accordingly, the present invention provides methods for the identification of compounds that inhibit histidinol-phosphatase expression or activity. The methods of the invention are useful for the identification of antibiotics, preferably  
10 antifungals.

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